

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tool for effecting attachment of a wire terminated electrical terminal with respect to a mating electrical contact, said tool comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a first opened end, a second opened end and a continuous slot extending from said first opened and said second opened ends and defining a pair of inwardly deflectable opposed sidewalls, wherein said wire may be loosely received between said opposed sidewalls; and

a first recessed stop toward said first opened end of said tubular body, said first recessed stop being adapted to seat at least said terminal at said first opened end, wherein said opposed sidewalls are inwardly deflectable so as to grip said wire to effect attachment to said electrical terminal.

2. The tool of claim 1, further comprising a second recessed stop toward said second opened end of said tubular body, said second recessed stop being adapted to seat at least a second contact terminal at said second opened end, said second terminal having a size different than said terminal, wherein said tool is configured so as to effect attachment of a plurality of terminals having different sizes.

3. The tool of claim 1, wherein said continuous slot tapers from one of said ends to the other of said end.

4. The tool of claim 3, wherein said uniform width is sufficient to accommodate a range of wire gages of from about 5 AWG to about 25 AWG.

5. The tool of claim 1, further comprising a flattened portion on each of said opposed sidewalls, wherein each said flattened portion is configured to deflect inwardly to tightly grip said wire received between said opposed sidewalls.

6. The tool of claim 5, wherein each said flattened portion is arranged adjacent a center of said tubular body.
7. The tool of claim 6, wherein each said flattened portion forms a finger pad for holding said tool.
8. The tool of claim 1, wherein said first recessed stop is substantially rigid.
9. The tool of claim 8, wherein said terminal includes a distal contact portion and a proximal crimp barrel portion, said proximal crimp barrel portion being crimped to said wire in an oval configuration, wherein said first open end of said tubular body is generally circular so as to accommodate said proximal crimp barrel portion in a manner which resists rotation therein.
10. The tool of claim 2, wherein said second recessed stop is substantially rigid.
11. The tool of claim 10, wherein said second terminal includes a distal connection portion and a proximal crimp barrel portion, said proximal crimp barrel portion being crimped to said wire in an oval configuration, wherein said second opened end of said tubular body is generally circular so as to accommodate said crimp barrel terminal portion in a manner which resists rotation therein.
12. The tool of claim 11, wherein said plurality of terminals include identifying indicia to differentiate said different sizes and wherein said first and second opened ends of said tubular body include marking indicia.
13. The tool of claim 12, wherein said identifying indicia includes a sleeve being color-coded.

14. The tool of claim 13, wherein said marking indicia on said first and second opened ends matches said color-coded indicia.

15. A tool for placement of a terminal with respect to a mating electrical contact, said tool comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a first opened end and a second opened end, said tubular body having a pair of opposed slots including a continuous slot from said first opened end to said second opened end and a slot extending toward said first and second opened ends, said opposed slots defining a pair of opposed sidewalls, wherein a wire attached to said terminal contact may be loosely received between said opposed sidewalls along an entire length of said tool; and

a first recessed stop toward said first opened end of said tubular body, said first recessed stop being adapted to seat at least said terminal attached to said wire.

16. The tool of claim 15, further comprising: a second recessed stop toward said second opened end of said tubular body, said second recessed stop being adapted to seat a second terminal attached to a second wire having a size different than said terminal.

17. The tool of claim 16, wherein said opposed sidewalls are inwardly deflectable so as to grip said side wire to effect attachment to said electrical contact.

18. A tool for placement of a wire terminated terminal with respect to a mating electrical contact, said tool comprising:

a tubular body having a first opened end and a second opened end, said tubular body having a pair of opposed slots including a continuous slot extending from said first opened end to said second opened end, said opposed slots defining a pair of inwardly deflectable opposed sidewalls, wherein a wire attached to said terminal may be loosely received between said opposed sidewalls;

a first recessed stop toward said first opened end of said tubular body, said first recessed stop being adapted to seat a first terminal attached to a first wire;

a second recessed stop toward said second opened end of said tubular body, said second

recessed stop being adapted to seat a second terminal attached to a second wire having a size different than said first terminal, wherein said tool is configured so as to effect attachment of a plurality of terminals having different sizes; and

a flattened portion on each of said opposed sidewalls, wherein said opposed sidewalls are configured to tightly hold said wire received between said opposed sidewalls upon application of a pressure to each said flattened portion.

~~19~~ 20. The tool of claim ~~18~~ 19, wherein said plurality of terminals include identifying indicia to differentiate said different sizes and wherein said first and second ends of said tubular body include marking indicia.

~~20~~ 21. The tool of claim ~~19~~ 20, wherein said identifying indicia includes a sleeve being color-coded.

~~21~~ 22. The tool of claim ~~20~~ 21, wherein said marking indicia on said first and second ends matches said color-coded indicia.

~~22~~ 23. A tool for effecting attachment of a wire terminated electrical terminal with respect to a mating electrical contact, said tool comprising:

an elongate tubular body having a first opened end, a second end, a point of bend and a bent portion, said bent portion being defined as a portion of said tubular body between said first opened end and said point of bend, said bent portion having a continuous slot extending from said first opened end to said point of bend and defining a pair of inwardly deflectable opposed sidewalls, wherein said wire may be loosely received between said opposed sidewalls; and

a first recessed stop toward said first opened end of said bent portion, said first recessed stop being adapted to seat at least said terminal at said first opened end, wherein said opposed sidewalls are inwardly deflectable so as to grip said wire to effect attachment to said electrical terminal.

23 24. The tool of claim ²²23, wherein said tubular body further comprises a second point of bend and a second bent portion, said second bent portion being defined as a portion of said tubular body between said second end and said second point of bend, said second bent portion having a continuous slot extending from said second end to said second point of bend and defining a pair of inwardly deflectable opposed second sidewalls, wherein said wire may be loosely received between said opposed second sidewalls; and

a second recessed stop toward said second end of said second bent portion, said second recessed stop being adapted to seat at least said terminal at said second end, wherein said second opposed sidewalls are inwardly deflectable so as to grip said wire to effect attachment to said electrical terminal.